REPLY TO

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

HEADQUARTERS, III CORPS AND FORT HOOD 1001 761ST TANK BATTALION AVENUE FORT HOOD, TEXAS 76544-5000

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF

AFZF-GA-SAFE

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MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Winter Holiday Season 2003-2004 Safety Campaign

- 1. As the holiday season rapidly approaches, our families will begin their annual preparation for family get-togethers and travel throughout the U.S. While the holiday season is a time of joy, giving, and thanks, Soldiers and family members must remain mindful of safety at all times. During November and December of last year, III Corps lost four Soldiers to POV accidents. Our winter holiday accident prevention plans must start now and must remain paramount throughout the holiday season.
- 2. While many safety hazards exist during the winter and holiday season, leaders must pay extra attention to a few areas. Holiday travel tops my list. In light of upcoming deployments, many Soldiers may wish to visit loved ones and friends one more time prior to departure next year. Leaders must ensure that Soldiers have good travel plans in place prior to departure on leave and pass. Suicide prevention is another area where leaders must remain cognizant. The holiday season may be a very lonely time for some Soldiers and family members that are a long way from home and family. Leaders must care for these individuals by reviewing suicide prevention programs. I also encourage leaders to link their holiday safety programs to our annual "Tie-One-On" Safety Campaign.
- 3. Commanders and leaders have numerous resources available to assist with their holiday safety programs. In addition to consulting with local law enforcement, Fort Hood's safety offices, and local fire departments, leaders can obtain many safety resources from the III Corps Safety Public Folder (Public Folders/All Public Folders/Fort Hood Public Folders/III Corps Public Folders/III Corps G1/Safety-III Corps G1) and the Army Safety Center Homepage (http://safety.army.mil/home.html).
- 4. I charge commanders with developing and implementing aggressive safety programs that will safeguard our Soldiers, civilians, and family members. Our goal is to be accident-free throughout the holiday season. Our efforts will reap great dividends if every Soldier, civilian, and family member returns safely after the holiday season.

THOMAS F. METZ

Lieutenant General, USA

Commanding

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